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# Hongkong Daily Press.

ESTABLISHED 1857.

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9.00 a.m. to 9.30 a.m. ... Every 15 minutes.  
9.30 a.m. to 10.00 a.m. ... Every 10 minutes.  
10.00 a.m. to 10.30 a.m. ... Every 15 minutes.  
10.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. ... Every 10 minutes.  
11.00 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. ... Every 15 minutes.  
11.30 a.m. to 12.00 p.m. ... Every 10 minutes.  
12.00 p.m. to 1.00 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.  
1.00 p.m. to 1.30 p.m. ... Every 10 minutes.  
1.30 p.m. to 2.00 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.  
2.00 p.m. to 2.30 p.m. ... Every 10 minutes.  
2.30 p.m. to 3.00 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.  
3.00 p.m. to 3.30 p.m. ... Every 10 minutes.  
3.30 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.  
4.00 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. ... Every 10 minutes.  
4.30 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.  
5.00 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. ... Every 10 minutes.  
5.30 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.  
6.00 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. ... Every 10 minutes.  
6.30 p.m. to 7.00 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.  
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9.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m. ... Every 15 minutes.  
10.30 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. ... Every 10 minutes.  
11.30 a.m. to 12.00 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.  
12.00 Noon to 1.00 p.m. ... Every 10 minutes.  
1.00 p.m. to 1.30 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.  
1.30 p.m. to 2.00 p.m. ... Every 10 minutes.  
2.00 p.m. to 2.30 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.  
2.30 p.m. to 3.00 p.m. ... Every 10 minutes.  
3.00 p.m. to 3.30 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.  
3.30 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. ... Every 10 minutes.  
4.00 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.  
4.30 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. ... Every 10 minutes.  
5.00 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.  
5.30 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. ... Every 10 minutes.  
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Hongkong, 14th January, 1904. [a224]

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Ho Koon, 14th August, 1903. [a3339]

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[a2753]

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Hongkong, 12th January, 1904. [a205]

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Hongkong, 6th May, 1903. [a218]

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Hongkong, 12th January, 1904. [a35]

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[a40]

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Hongkong, 21st December, 1903. [a38]

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Excellent Cuisine.

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THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

[31]

## DEATHS.

On the 4th January, 1904, at Kobe, HENRY HENDERSON LUCAS, aged 96 years.

On the 5th January, 1904, at Kobe, EVELYN KIRKWOOD, daughter of W. A. and A. L. BRADLEY, aged 84 years.

## The Daily Press.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 14, DES VERTS ROAD CL.  
LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

HONGKONG, 14th JANUARY, 1904

In April and May, 1902, Sir FRANCIS LOVELL, C.M.G., paid a visit to Hongkong in connection with a mission to rouse Colonial interest in the work of the London School of Tropical Medicine, a school which owed its origin principally to Mr. JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN, who some years ago, with the object of affording instruction in tropical medicine to medical officers in the Colonial service, invited the committee of management of the Seamen's Hospital Society to establish a school in connection with their hospitals. Sir FRANCIS LOVELL's mission was very successful. The Hongkong Government itself voted £100 a year for five years, as did the Straits and Federated Malay States Governments, while private subscriptions were most liberal. It was estimated at the time that the School would be richer by some £10,000 as the total result, but we do not remember having seen the exact figures since. Now again we hear that Sir FRANCIS LOVELL is to come out East, to make a second attempt to gather the necessary funds for carrying on what Sir PATRICK MANSON in an address on the 7th December last, on the occasion of Sir FRANCIS LOVELL's departure on his second tour, rightly called "an important and national enterprise." Dr. MANSON (to use once more the name by which he was formerly so well known in Hongkong) on that occasion spoke of what the School of Tropical Medicine has done, is doing, and hopes to do. With regard to education, he told his hearers that since October, 1899, 354 students had passed its portals—among the earlier students, we may note, being Drs. ATKINSON, STEDMAN, and J. G. THOMSON. Moreover the increase has been steady, and a larger proportion now stay for the full course of three months. The education is of an essentially practical kind. Sir PATRICK MANSON said that the students had been "in actual touch with the raw material, so to speak, the germ causes of

disease, and the pathological effects of the operation of these germs on the human body" and had "seen, and most of them applied for themselves, the most recent methods of diagnosis." Such students therefore come out to the tropics thoroughly abreast of the times, knowing what has been done and what requires to be done. "So it has come about that at the present day, instead of the two or three men who took a more or less languid interest in tropical disease some five or six years ago, a whole army of eager investigators has arisen, mainly composed of men educated or inspired by the Liverpool and London Schools."

Sir PATRICK enumerated a few notable triumphs by men from the London School, which has now been in existence a few months over four years. Firstly Dr. Low, present Superintendent of the School, showed how the blood-worm responsible for elephantiasis is introduced into the human body, i.e. by the proboscis of a mosquito. Then, the final proof of the conveyance of malaria by mosquitoes was given by the School, chiefly through Dr. S. S. Manson and Low. And again the parasite which causes the terrible malarial known as Sleeping Sickness was discovered through the researches of two pupils and the late Superintendent of the School. With regard to the latter discovery, Sir PATRICK MANSON said on the 7th December that until a fortnight before it could not be affirmed with certainty that this parasite, the trypanosome, was really the cause of Sleeping Sickness. Now we know that the trypanosome causes Sleeping Sickness, and the knowledge will in the end result in our being able, if not to cure, at least to prevent the disease, which (conveyed, it seems, through the bite of a species of tsetse-fly) is rapidly spreading not only in the Congo Free State but also in Uganda and elsewhere in Africa. These discoveries are accomplished facts. "but," said the speaker, "they are not enough; they only serve to stimulate us to attempt more." The School is now actively investigating that at present mysterious disease beri-beri, Dr. DANIELS, the late superintendent, being in charge of a very complete research laboratory at Kuala Lumpur. But for the schemes of investigation on foot, for the remainder of the debt on the School buildings, for the furnishing of its library and museum, etc., money is required. Sir PATRICK MANSON put the case thus:—"We want £100,000, or as much of that sum as we can get. We have 'given full value for that money. Apart from the education we have supplied to our 354 students, any one of the discoveries I have mentioned is worth the sum I name ten times over. . . . I have, therefore, no hesitation in asking for 'something more on account.' For the purpose of collecting some of the required money, Sir FRANCIS LOVELL, the Dean of the School, is repeating his visit of two years ago. A wealthy Parsee, the Hon. BOMANJI DINSHAW PETIT, before gave 100,000 rupees to the School; Sir PATRICK MANSON says that he does not despair of there being found somewhere a Chinese rival to Mr. PETIT, and looks especially to the Chinese, who stand to gain so much in the Malay Peninsula by the discovery of the cause of beri-beri, for aid at the present time. From business houses and corporations connected with the East the School has already received much support and this, Sir PATRICK is sure, will be continued. He concluded with a graceful acknowledgement of gratitude to the Press, both at home and in the East, for their assistance to Sir FRANCIS LOVELL, and to his medical brethren in India, the Straits, Hongkong, and elsewhere for their co-operation.

We are confident that this new appeal will not be made in vain. The London School of Tropical Medicine has established already a permanent claim on the sympathy and active help of all classes of residents in the East. Hongkong will not be behind the rest in acknowledging this debt.

The rainfall of yesterday caused Queen's Road to be covered with mud and made both pedestrian and vehicle traffic conditions unpleasant. In the thoroughfares where tramway operations are in progress the mud was several inches thick.

In the Supreme Court yesterday one of the witnesses was a woman carrying two children, one in her arms and another on her back, while a third followed on foot. Mr. Justice Wise desired to know who was the woman with the numerous family.

We call our readers' attention to the advertisement appearing in another column with reference to the forthcoming Cricket Club dance. It will be noted that the conditions are somewhat altered from those mentioned in our columns the other day.

The *Waikaze* (Chinese Foreign Office) makes it a rule to send copies daily of Reuter's telegrams received by the Board to the Palace, for the Empress Dowager's perusal.

At York recently there were sold a few pounds of Eldorado potatoes for the record price of £150 per lb. or £336,000 per ton.

The following appointment has been announced at the Admiralty:—Sargison G. Ross, to the *Albion*, to date December 11.

It is stated that at Port Arthur now vessels entering and leaving the harbour are conducted by a pilot-boat, it is supposed to avoid any danger of running on the torpedoes which are presumed to be laid.

The Standard Life Assurance Co., and the Queen's Own merged in "Royal"—Insure. Co., have sent us very useful blotters; and the Standard Co. a diary also. Messrs. Deidwell & Co. Ltd., are Hongkong agents of the Standard Life Assurance Co., and Messrs. E. D. Sassoon & Co., of the Queen Insurance Co.

A despatch to the *Asahi* dated Peking, December 28, says:—It is reported, that Chang Yik who interviewed Viceroy Alexieff at Port Arthur recently, has given permission to Russia for the construction of a railway between Shimon and Moukden. The report is not yet confirmed, but it is believed to be true. British subjects have highly censured Chang's conduct, and Chinese officials also blame him. Viceroy Yuan has declared that he will never endorse the promise said to have been given to Russia by Chang Yik.

Mr. Justice Wise recently made an order for an unfortunate debtor who had got into the clutches of an extortionate Indian money-lender to pay back the small debt at a rate which would have taken about twenty years to wipe it off. Judge Bentall has ordered this in London. A clerk who had borrowed £20 in 1886 paid back £100 by way of interest and was summoned for £153. The Judge said that if this were so he could not make a higher order than for the payment of one farthing a month, in which event the debt would be paid in 10,000 years.

The Bank of Japan has been victimised in a curious manner. On the 28th ult. a man presented a cheque for 3,000 yen. The cheque was in order, and after the usual examination the amount arrived at the paying-out counter. There the incident occurred. By some unexplained process the money never reached the hands of the presenter of the cheque. After long waiting he became surprised at the delay and enquired the cause, whereupon it transpired that some unknown individual had intercepted, received the thirty thousand yen and taken himself away. The precincts of the Bank were at once placed under police guard and a strict search was instituted. But of course it proved fruitless.

Several complaints have reached us regarding the want of supervision and control of the natives waiting outside the Court at the Magistrate's, which makes it most unpleasant for Europeans whose business calls them thither, and who do not care to sit in the Court while waiting for the calling on of the special case in which they are interested. Coolies of the lowest type, it appears, crowd at the very doors of the Court room and jostle, unreproved, Europeans and respectable Chinese, while at the same time they smoke vile so-called cigarettes, and expectorate freely wherever they happen to be standing. This would scarcely appear to be as it should be, and is certainly deserving of the attention of the authorities concerned.

The *Japan Mail* writes:—The United States representative in Seoul is reported to have intimated his intention not to attend the Korean Emperor's levee at the New Year. Dr. Allen's reason for this abstention is that he has failed to obtain audience of the Sovereign for the purpose of discussing the opening of Yung-ampho, and he therefore declines to make act of presence at the Court for any purposes of ordinary etiquette. It appears to us that this is a wise and warrantable attitude. If the Emperor of Corea declines to give audience to the representative of a foreign Power in connection with important international questions, His Majesty cannot reasonably expect the slightest representative to attend purely conventional Court receptions.

The *Globe* wrote last month:—The rumours of Count Lamsdorff's withdrawal from the Russian Foreign Office are now openly discussed in St. Petersburg. It is stated that the Count is averse to the continued retention of Manchuria, which he regards as a reflection upon his personal good faith, and that at his recent interview with M. Delcassé, the latter urged counsel of conciliatory moderation towards Japan with which Count Lamsdorff felt himself in sympathy, especially as he derived from the French colleague the impression that Great Britain had given similar counsel to Japan. Count Izvolski is still mentioned as his successor. He has been Minister at Tokyo, and is regarded as the ablest of the young diplomatists trained under Prince Gortschakoff.

With regard to the Urga-Peking railway, to which we referred yesterday, the *Globe's* St. Petersburg correspondent wrote on the 8th ult.:—This time last year it was reported that the Russian Government was engaged in making the preliminary surveys for a line of railway from Urga and in a south-easterly direction across the Desert of Gobi to Peking. The rumour was denied at the time by the Russian Press. However, the *Novoe Vremya* now announces boldly that the survey referred to is now in readiness for constructing such a highly important line of railway. In fact, it is believed that a start in building the line was made some time ago, and that Russia will be able to surprise the world by the remarkable speed with which the Mongolian Railway will turn out to have been built.

The Korean ginseng crop is stated to amount to 39,000 lbs.

Advices from Nowchwang, dated the 19th December, stated that the river above and below Yinkoo was frozen hard, but that abreast of the Settlement there was drift ice only.

The estimated rice crop available for export from Burma during the year 1903-04 is the enormous total of 2,558,000 tons, or roughly, thirty per cent. above last year's record estimate.

The piano which fell into the Klong on Sunday, our suburban reporter now points out, was a motor car, says the *Bangkok Times*. The mistake is perhaps natural seeing that the generic name of all bulky packages is "piano," ever since Krupp guns were imported in that guise to Pretoria.

It has been stated that 100 United States soldiers [?] drawn from the Manila garrison arrived at Chemulpo by transport on the 4th inst. Official news to Tokyo, however, gives the number of men who arrived at Chemulpo as only 36. The soldiers were to proceed to Seoul, where they will act as a Legation guard. A telegram from Seoul states that, in reply to a notification from the U.S. Minister in regard to the landing of the troops, the Korean Government said it saw no necessity for such a course being taken, as the U.S. Legation would be guarded by Korean troops in case of emergency. This account rather differs from the one describing the admitted inability of the Korean Government to keep order.

The *Daily Express* correspondent at Ekaterinodar, who has been engaged for some months in making enquiries into the extent of discontent in Russia, comes to the conclusion that Russia is rotten to the core. The correspondent says that the extent of the revolutionary movement and infection of the Army is undoubtedly at the bottom of Russia's hesitation to force a war with Japan. It has been remarked that war would be the signal for revolution in Russia. The necessity for drafting large numbers of troops to the Far East would, of course, correspondingly deplete European Russia of soldiers. Their presence acts as a check on the revolutionary movement; and if once this check were removed the forces of disorder would be free to work their will. As it is there is very serious danger of a more or less extensive revolutionary outbreak before the winter is past.

The Berlin correspondent of the *Ostenzeitung Lloyd*, who seems to spend most of his time in contradicting the London papers, says under date Berlin, 8th January:—Important London papers are expressing fear that there will be a naval battle in the Mediterranean between the ironclads bought by Japan in England and the Russian squadron, which is withheld in Bizerta for this purpose only. It appears that such rumours are absolutely baseless from the simple fact that the ironclads will go manned with a British crew and flying the British flag, via Suez, to East Asia. It is not very likely that the Russian squadron will open hostilities against these ships while no war has been declared. It is also incorrect that Russia has demanded that the Suez Canal must be closed to the Japanese men-of-war; should she have done so the canal would also be closed to Russian ships. The further statement of the English papers, according to which the Japanese officers doing service in Europe have been recalled by their Government, is, as far as Germany, where most of these officers are staying, is concerned, declared by the Japanese Minister in Berlin to be a pure invention. The reports about a British or a French mediation are likewise incorrect.

## CHINA ASSOCIATION AND THE FISCAL POLICY.

Mr. C. Pemberton, Hon. Secretary of the Hongkong Branch of the China Association, informs us that the Committee yesterday despatched the following telegram to the Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain:—

"Large majority of members Hongkong Branch China Association warmly support your fiscal aims. Consider reciprocal treaties absolutely necessary, failing which recommend adoption retaliation."

The members of the Association, who were a-ked to vote on the subject, were practically unanimous in sanctioning its despatch, only one dissenting.

## HONGKONG IN A MIST.

At 4 p.m. on Tuesday the Hongkong Observatory hoisted signals to the effect that there was a depression to the N.W. of Shanghai, centremoving towards the east. Yesterday morning a glance from the hill showed that we also had a depression, and a very disagreeable one, at Hongkong. The harbour was so enveloped in mist that not only was the Kowloon Peninsula invisible, but also vessels in harbour. As the day went on weather developed from Scotch mist into drizzling rain, soon putting thoroughfares in a muddy condition. It was almost impossible to take refuge on the pavements on account of the numerous Chinese crowded there, going along at a snail-like speed. Chinese require teaching, for the general benefit, that an umbrella balanced on the shoulder is very dangerous to other people, and that rain does not fall from ceilings of verandahs. But, to return to the weather, the Observatory yesterday hoisted the signal flags meaning that there was a depression over China. As the depression is on the move—eastward—we can look forward to fine weather.

## TELEGRAMS.

### REUTER'S SERVICE.

#### JAPAN AND RUSSIA.

LONDON, 11th January.

Germany and the other Powers of the Triple Alliance have determined to observe strict neutrality in the event of hostilities between Russia and Japan.

The present uncertainty is having a disturbing effect on Russian public opinion, which is becoming more and more pessimistic, but the Press, while warning Japan that Russia has reached the limit in the way of concessions, professes to be hopeful of peace.

#### SOMALILAND.

LONDON, 11th January.

A successful engagement has been fought in Somaliland, two British officers were killed, and eight severely wounded; one thousand of the enemy were killed.

### FIRE ON A STEAMER IN THE HARBOUR.

On Tuesday night the Fire Brigade were informed that a fire had broken out on the Norwegian steamer *Prima* (Captain B. A. Meyer), which was lying at the western end of the Harbour, just opposite the gas-works. A party of men was at once despatched, under Chief Inspector H. G. Baker, Mr. D. Macdonald, engineer, and Sergeant R. Macdonald, assistant engineer. The floating engine opposite the Harbour Office was soon got alongside the *Prima*. It was found that the fire was confined to the forepeak where the crew's quarters are situated. Four hoses, two big and two small, were led into the seat of the conflagration, and in the space of about two hours the flames had been flooded out. It was then discovered that the damage done had not been very extensive, being confined to the wood work in the neighbourhood where it started. It appears that the cause of the outbreak was the explosion of a lamp in the lamp-room. An European who was working in the room at the time was somewhat seriously burned when the lamp exploded. The *Prima* arrived on the 8th inst. from Haiphong with a cargo of rice consigned to Messrs. Sander, Weller & Co. and was light at the time of the outbreak. Yesterday forenoon the water with which she had been deluged was pumped out and she went over to Kowloon Docks in the afternoon for repairs.

### GERMAN OFFICERS' VISIT TO H.E. MR. MAY.

Yesterday morning the captains of the German war-ships *Mosue* and *Zache* paid official visits to H.E. Mr. F. H. May, C.M.G., and Major-General Villiers, Hutton, C.B. The captain of the *Mosue* is Capt. Lieut. von Grumbkow; he arrived here a few days ago by the s.s. *Syria* to take over command of a vessel for some time in charge of an acting appointment. The other captain, Capt. Kroncke, is a new arrival, the *Zache* having only come here a few days ago.

### BENEFIT CONCERT.

A complimentary farrowed concert was given last evening in the S. Patrick's Club to Messrs. W. T. Burgess and W. F. Rogers, two gentlemen who have done good service during their stay in the Colony by way of giving their services at benefit and charitable entertainments. The wet night apparently had a bad effect upon the attendance, which was not large though the hall was fairly well filled. Mr. C. Wood was master of ceremonies; the excellence of the programme did credit to him and to the various artists who sustained it. These included the beneficiaries themselves, also Messrs. W. Robins, H. Wisby, G. Varney, H. E. Gilbert, H. Neal, C. Wood, H. Nash, and H. McLean (pianist). A farce, *My wife won't let me*, by Messrs. Burgess, Wood, Varney, Gilbert and Rogers brought the entertainment to a close.

### ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

The following cards were returned at the quarterly meeting held from the 9th to the 11th January:—

MURKIN CUP.	
Mr. H. C. T. Dowling	88 = 8 = 78
Mr. J. Johnston	85 = 4 = 81
Mr. J. K. Raymond	86 = 5 = 81
Mr. J. Douglas	80 = 9 = 81
Mr. A. U. Campbell	88 = 6 = 82
Mr. N. J. Stubb	89 = 7 = 82
Mr. C. E. Butt	84 = 12 = 82
Mr. C. E. Butt	87 = 14 = 83
Mr. C. E. Butt	84 = 0 = 84
Mr. C. W. May	89 = 5 = 84
Mr. E. J. Grist	89 = 3 = 86
Mr. P. R. Scott	85 = 9 = 86
Mr. J. Stoddard	98 = 12 = 85

### BOBBY AND MARTIN CUP.

Mr. A. U. Campbell	1 up
Mr. N. J. Stubb	1 all square
Mr. John Johnston	1 all square
Mr. H. C. T. Dowling	1 down
Mr. J. Douglas	1 down
Hon. G. Stewart	2 down
Mr. A. C. Butt	2 down
Mr. A. J. Williams	2 down
Mr. C. E. H. Beavis	3 down
Mr. P. R. Scott	6 down

### POOL.

Mr. A. U. Campbell	84 = 7 = 77
Mr. J. K. Raymond	83 = 9 = 79
Hon. G. Stewart	85 = 4 = 81
Mr. John Johnston	86 = 5 = 81
Mr. C. W. May	89 = 5 = 84
Mr. A. C. Butt	93 = 9 = 84
Mr. E. J. Grist	89 = 3 = 86

## SUPREME COURT.

Wednesday, 13th January.

### IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR A. G. WISE (PUNISH JUDGE).  
Tong Iun On, trader, 22, Sai Yuen Street, claimed from Wan In Nam, trader, master of the Kwan Wo Tung firm, 53, Aberdeen Village, the sum of \$175.67, being monies deposited by the plaintiff with the defendant as to \$100 on two separate deposit receipts of \$50 each written in the Chinese language and dated 5th August, 1902, and as to \$75.67 on a deposit receipt written in the Chinese language and dated 4th December, 1902. Mr. J. Hays, of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master, solicitors, appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. E. A. Bonner, of Messrs. Donny and Bowley, solicitors, for the defendant.

Mr. Bonner asked for an adjournment to permit of some partnership accounts being translated.

Mr. Hays said his instructions were that the claim had nothing to do with partnership accounts. His only reason for objecting to an adjournment was simply that the defendant might disappear.

His Lordship—I thought he had gone long ago.

Mr. Bonner—I understand he is still here.

His Lordship—I do not know your defence, but I have a little knowledge of Wan In Nam. I hope he does not run up against my knowledge.

Mr. Bonner added that this money was money advanced to complete the plaintiff's share in a partnership account.

His Lordship granted an adjournment, and said he would consider the question of security being lodged on application being made to him in Chambers.

The Court afterwards adjourned.

## HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of this Board will take place at 4.15 p.m. to-day:—

### ORDERS OF THE DAY.

1. Application for exemption from the provision of a backyard in respect of No. 75, Kramor Street, Tai Kok Tsui.
2. Application for exemption from the provision of an open space in respect of No. 17, Macdonald Road, Yau Ma Tei.
3. Application for permission to erect an 8-foot latrine on the roof of houses Nos. 130 and 132, Des Vaux Road, Central.
4. Application for permission to use the basement of No. 22, Western Street for the storage and preparation of preserved bean curd.
5. Application for permission to erect a sun-shade at the side of No. 183, Queen's Road West.
6. Applications for licences for the sale of food for man outside the Public Markets.
7. Application for permission to use the basement of No. 33, Centre Street, for the preparation and storage of food.
8. Application for exemption from the provision of an open space in respect of No. 29, Battery Street, Yau Ma Tei.
9. Letter from Messrs. Palmer & Turner, dated December 24th, 1903, and minute by the Building Authority thereon.
10. Results of examinations made under "The Sale of Food and Drugs Ordinance, 1896" for the quarter ended December 31st, 1903.
11. Mortality Statistics for the week ended 31st October, 1903.
12. Lime-washing Return for the fortnight ended 5th January, 1904.
13. Rat Return for the fortnight ended 11th January, 1904.

## HONGKONG'S WHARVES.

Considering that Hongkong is the second sea-port of the world, it is surprising that we have not more wharves; this, of course, is accounted for by the fact that many companies find it more convenient to discharge their transhipment cargoes into lighters, where goods remain till the other vessel is ready for them. After all, merchandise coming to Hongkong, except the comparatively small amounts required for local use, is for transhipment. In other words, Hongkong is one of the greatest, if not the greatest, crossroads for vessels known; it is the greatest, certainly, in the Far East. The Hongkong Land Reclamation Co. are now taking a slice off the harbour to the east of the Kowloon wharves and godowns; this, it would seem, is a new site for wharves and godowns. No doubt Kowloon will grow rapidly in size and importance, but, at the present time, and for many years to come, Hongkong is, and will continue to be, the trade-centre. Why, then, are not more wharves built on this side of the harbour? When supplies are discharged into the godowns across the water they have to be again loaded into junks or cargo-lighters for conveyance to this side of the harbour. Yet it is to be noted that, in general, shippers prefer to send their goods in slow freighters by round-about routes, rather than by fast lines where they will receive more handling; moreover, the lines handling the goods must, necessarily, charge higher freight. On the Hongkong side, Messrs. Douglas Laiprak & Co., and companies whose steamers discharge at the West Point wharves, find it a great advantage. Here, indeed, is a chance for enterprisers.

## WEATHER REPORT.

The Hongkong Observatory yesterday issued the following report:  
On the 13th at 12.5 p.m.—The barometer has fallen generally, particularly over Japan.  
There are two depressions, one passing to the Pacific to the N.W. of Japan, and the other moving into the W. part of the Sea of Japan. Gradients slight with light variable winds in S. China, light monsoon over the N. part of the China Sea.  
Forecast:—Variable winds, light; cloudy, some light rain or mist.



## THE FISCAL QUESTION.

[BY X.]

Believing as I do that the adoption of Mr. Chamberlain's fiscal programme would prove disastrous economically and politically to the British Empire, and more especially to the Mother Country, and in view of the opportunity which is being given to British residents to register their opinion on the question at the City Hall, I venture to submit a few reflections for consideration by those who are invited to vote.

It is well to inquire in the first place whether we are to regard—as we are very apt to do—this great and far-reaching question from a purely local and particular standpoint—to view it, that is to say, as citizens of Hongkong, or as citizens of the wide British Empire. The announcement of the poll does not call for an expression of opinion on the local bearing of the new policy. Indeed, before we can consider the question from a purely local standpoint it is essential that we should know more definitely than we do at present the nature of the proposals which would apply here. But, so far as we can form any idea of them, can we feel satisfied that they will beneficially affect the interests of this Colony? We may take it, I suppose, that the adoption of the new policy would entail the taxation of all our food supplies, for every article of food we consume has to be imported, and very little of it comes from British sources. Will that be helpful to the prosperity of Hongkong? Do we not already have enough about the increased cost of the prime necessities of life from our employees as a reason for demanding higher wages? The policy again involves the taxation of "raw materials" imported from foreign countries. That proposal too has its local application, for though Hongkong is not a manufacturing centre we have at least one important industry on which the new policy would bear heavily. I allude, of course, to the sugar-refining industry. I stand upon correction on the point, but I think I am safe in saying that not one ounce of the raw sugar which comes to our local refineries is grown on British soil. When we bear in mind that this industry has already suffered in the Asiatic markets from the restrictive tariffs imposed by Japan and France we can hardly view with favour any proposal which involves an additional handicap.

But it is in its bearing upon the shipping interests of this port, which boasts the third largest shipping trade in the world, that we are most concerned, and we are in the position of not knowing what the new policy may involve in this respect. We complain of foreign subsidised steamship services cutting into trade which formerly was practically monopolised by British firms. But is British tonnage any the smaller on account of this increase of foreign competition? I seek the answer in the latest report of the Harbour Master, and I read that a comparison between the years 1901 and 1902 for vessels under the British flag shows an increase of 387 ships of 353,148 tons. It is only fair to quote this also from the Report: "These figures are, however, misleading, for river steamers are responsible for an increase of 397 ships of 157,559 tons. This leaves a net decrease of 10 ocean-going ships with an increase in tonnage of 206,609 tons." Of British ocean-going tonnage, 3,010,442 tons entered and 3,005,148 tons cleared in 1902. I consult the Report for 1899, and I see the figures were 2,587,478 tons entered and 2,587,369 tons cleared. I do not wish to disguise the fact that the percentage of increase in foreign shipping has been much greater; but I wish merely to point out that in point of tonnage we have not receded but substantially advanced. Our free-trade policy has given foreign shipping every facility to attack our trade. We have imposed no discriminating harbour or tonnage dues, and we have given them the same access to every league of our coastline as we give to our own ships, whilst our rivals rigorously exclude us from their "coastwise" trade. The temptation to retaliate is therefore great. Suppose we did retaliate in Hongkong; what effect would it be likely to have on the prosperity of the Colony? Would the foreign nations meekly submit, pay our charges and look pleasant? I think not. It would lead, not immediately perhaps, but inevitably to a scattering of our trade. When the Americans took possession of Manila we heard much of the boast that it would capture a large part of the trade of Hongkong; but that boast will be vain so long as Hongkong remains a free port. If England adopts the policy of retaliation, it would, of course, be absurd to expect that the other nations will "take it lying down." We are certain to see it acting as a spur to greater activity on their part, and we in Hongkong can hardly afford to disregard the temptation such a change in our own fiscal relations would offer to our commercial rivals to divert trade to other ports. However much we may find fault with our free trade policy the fact that Hongkong is incomparably more prosperous than any other port in Asia is eloquent testimony to the general soundness of the policy in which it has been nurtured.

Is it not a little significant, too, that while we are talking loudly of retaliation the Americans in the Philippines are demanding a very substantial reduction in their tariff? Turning now from the local to the imperial aspect of the question, I can only in a single article glance at a few of the most striking points that must appeal to all students of the question. Mr. Chamberlain has advanced two main reasons for his enterprise. He sounds in the first place the alarm that we are being attacked by our commercial rivals on all sides, and he advocates a closer bond of union with the Colonies by the establishment of a system of mutual trade

preferences. Now it cannot be said that in our foreign trade we are losing ground, but only that the percentage of increase in our trade is not so great as that of our commercial rivals. Of course, it is not; the percentage of a new country like that of a new firm of it is pushing its trade at all must always be greater than that of the old established firm. The British Board of Trade returns exhibit no grounds for dismay. On the contrary we find that our foreign and Colonial trade is steadily on the increase. In 1898 the total was £764,539,000; in 1902, it rose to £877,630,000. An increase of £113,090,960 in four years is not evidence that England has been badly hit by these attacks, and I fancy there are many nations which would enjoy being "attacked" in the same way. In whatever direction we look we find that old England is, as Sir Henry Blake said of Hongkong, "instinct with boundless prosperity." British exports in the last four years have shown an increase of more than 20 per cent.; deposits in savings-banks have steadily and substantially increased, and our investments abroad during the last twenty years have more than doubled. Nor can it be disputed that the people of the old country are better housed, better clothed, and better fed than they have ever been before. Mr. Chamberlain is doing his best to persuade the working men of the United Kingdom that they will be infinitely better off under a policy of protection than under free-trade; that is an assertion which needs a great deal to support it—a great deal more than it is in the power of Mr. Chamberlain to supply.

Will anyone seriously contend that the lot of the labourer and the artisan in any of the great protected countries—Germany, the United States, or France—is preferable to that of the same class in England? The evidence points conclusively in the opposite direction. "I have looked," said Lord Goschen recently, "into the reports of the German factory inspectors, the men who have investigated the position of the German working classes, and I say that if these factory reports could be circulated among our working class population we should hear very little about the benefits which protection can afford. Their industrial institutions have meant forced sales. They have sent goods to this country at low prices, and mainly they have deceived the consumer at home. They have made the consumer at home pay much more than was ever paid by the foreigner. 'We are helping the foreigner by giving him cheap food,' says one of these reports, 'and we are penalising our people by forcing up the price of food, by curtailing their ability to buy because we are weakening the whole social system by the imposition of these enormous taxes.' The statistics of these enormous taxes." The statistics and the regard employment in Germany and the general position of the industries of the country show a condition of things which Lord Goschen rightly said would not be stood in England. The factory inspector for Leipzig reports for the year 1902 as follows: "The economic conditions of the workers have not improved during the past year, since the incomes of many workpeople have undergone a further diminution, partly owing to a reduction of wages and partly owing to curtailment of the hours of work, and since the prices of the most important articles of food have increased the endeavour to economise shows itself in the diminution of the consumption of meat and the larger demand for horseflesh."

The United Kingdom would suffer more from protection than any other country because the greater proportion of the import trade of the country consists of foodstuffs and raw materials. Of these we obtain about 90 millions from the Colonies and 290 millions from foreign countries. "But," says the advocate of protection, "we have in our Colonies, particularly in Canada, vast tracts of virgin soil capable of producing all the grain we need. Handicap the foreign imports, and you will at once give the necessary fillip to increased cultivation." And what is the position of the British taxpayer? What *quid pro quo* will he receive? Canada granted British goods a preference, but British trade with Canada diminished rather than increased because the tariff is still sufficiently protective to exclude British manufactures.

The British taxpayer will in his cool moments look at the matter from a purely selfish standpoint. We are to tax these 290 millions of foreign foodstuffs and raw material and in addition to tax by 10 per cent. all manufactured articles, so that the voter has to calculate not only upon a certain increase in the cost of his food, but also upon the enhancement of the cost of every ordinary necessary of life. Wherein is the attraction to the English elector when he places these facts alongside the facts of existence in the countries which already are protectionist? The prospect is not alluring. To tax food, as England must if she is to give a preference to the colonies, spells extortion from the poorer classes, whilst it leaves the wealthy practically unaffected. On reflection, it will be recognised that the poorer the man, the larger is the proportion of the tax he is called upon to pay upon bread and all articles of prime necessity on which a duty is levied. Sir James Blyth, who is well known for the interest he displays in imperial agriculture, calculates that a duty levied on foreign corn sufficient to raise the price of wheat all round by 5s. per quarter would relatively fall as a percentage on income to the extent of 10 per cent. on a person earning £2s. a week, while a man with a revenue of £1,000 a year would pay a tax of less than 1 per cent. on his income. When Mr. Chamberlain was President of the Board of Trade he held that "A tax on food would mean a decline in wages. It would certainly involve a reduction in their productive value; the same amount of money would have a smaller purchasing value." Mr. Chamberlain does not think

so now. Nevertheless, this seems sound economic doctrine, and I know of no instances in which it has proved fallacious.

The Duke of Devonshire has calculated that Mr. Chamberlain's scheme will entail a loss to the consumer of at least 35, and possibly 50 millions, and it would provide a subsidy—for that is really what it amounts to—of only 24 millions to the Colonies. An important point is, how would this subsidy be divided among the Colonies? The Duke works it out that Canada would get 3s. 2d. per head; Australia would get 1s. 11d.; New Zealand would get 6s. 8d. per head; and South Africa would get the magnificent sum of 3d. per head of its white population. India and the Crown Colonies would get nothing. India and South Africa are the best customers for British exports. Yet this is the reward which they are to receive under this scheme, which purports to be a scheme for the fiscal unification of the Empire. Let us reflect on this and we shall begin to see that this network of commercial treaties would be fatal to friendly relationship between the Colonies and the mother country, for when we come down to concrete illustrations of the working of the scheme we can see what a tempestuous time the mother is likely to have with her offspring. The policy bristles with difficulties which must lead to disintegration rather than bind the colonies to the motherland.

## RECENT EXPERIMENTS ON KHAKI.

Several interesting experiments have recently been made by German military experts with the object of ascertaining the most suitable colour for army uniforms. A report has been issued in which the compilers state: "It has often been noticed during field exercises that the gray winter uniforms of our troops could not be distinguished at long distances from the blue clothes of the Chinese, who were always present as spectators. In order to ascertain which colour was the least distinguishable from the country surrounding, a column was composed, the first section of which wore gray winter clothes, the second old short coats and black cloth trousers, the third khaki, the fourth overcoats, and the fifth canvas. The column was placed in close formation behind bushes without foliage. At a distance of about 1,400 yards the gray and overcoat section appeared like uniform dark spots, while the khaki and canvas sections were hardly distinguishable. Aiming at the two last mentioned was very difficult, as the mark appeared very indistinct in the sight. On the five sections advancing in skirmishing order, blue and gray could not be distinguished from one another. At a distance of 500 yards the gray began to look lighter than dark blue. The gray overcoats made very good marks, the khaki and canvas appearing like long dark stripes. Khaki and canvas both made distinct marks at all distances. The aiming of troops that lay without cover on the ground was much easier when they carried all their accoutrements. The khaki and canvas, and especially the black cooking pot, looked like dark spots against the background, and presented a very good target."

A TERRIBLE ENEMY. Certain particulars have appeared in the *New York World* respecting a new insect pest, etymologically known as the *Cureallia* or Cotton Boll Weevil. The locale of its most recent operations has been the cotton plantations of one of the Southern States. Crossing the Rio Grande from Mexico it entered Texas in 1894. Eastwards and northwards it has spread, the average rate of its progress being 75 miles per annum. So far its ravages have been confined to the State of Texas, but fears are expressed that it will attack other regions. It has been one of the factors which has occasioned the high prices of American cotton, prices which have shut down mills in the New England States and Lancashire. Its ravages last year are said to have cost the State of Texas, in diminished crops, a sum of thirty million dollars, the total loss since its arrival being computed at seventy million dollars. So far nothing has availed to slay the invader of this pest. Its endurance is enormous. Nothing short of annihilation seems to impair its vitality. Laboratory experiments have shown that thirty hours' exposure to a temperature below freezing point has not affected it. On thawing, it has stretched its legs, flapped its wings, and walked round as if in search of a habitat and mate to continue the reproduction of its pestiferous species. It must be confessed that the reports are alarming, and we hope that they may be discounted. Yet the following report by one of the officials of the Agricultural Department of Texas is alarming enough.

"Within nine years the Boll Weevil has caused actual losses to the Texas cotton planters aggregating 70,000,000 dollars. I estimate that the pest will cause a loss this year of more than 500,000 bales of cotton, with a cash value of more than twenty-three millions of dollars. During the preceding years following the weevil's first appearance in Texas the losses amounted to many thousands of bales, but no strict record was kept of them, owing to the fact that the people did not realize the seriousness of the situation. I do not believe that any practical or successful remedy will ever be found for eradicating the weevil. I believe that they will continue to spread until they have covered every part of the cotton-growing region of the South."

An extraordinary operation is reported from the town of Uriell, in Russia. A revolver, carefully handled, went off in the hands of a young girl, the bullet lodging in the heart. On Professor Mantouff being called in to perform after the occurrence an operation was performed on the girl, with the satisfactory result that the bullet was withdrawn and the girl's life saved. None of the main blood-vessels were injured during the operation.

## ARREST OF A GERMAN CAPTAIN AT MOJI.

Trouble has arisen in connection with the crew of the *Helene Rickmers* at Moji. The *Kobe Chronicle* says:—

According to the facts which have been related to us, the German steamer *Helene Rickmers*, Captain Warneke, was lying in Moji harbour about a week ago, when the Captain received a deputation from the Chinese crew asking that the Chinese should be discharged at that port. The Captain objected to this on the ground that there was no German Consulate in Moji where could be given a discharge, and that it would be impossible for him to obtain another crew at Moji. He promised, however, to take the men to Singapore and pay them off there, and to send them back to Hongkong from that port. It appears that meanwhile some of the Chinese had gone ashore, and they were told by a Chinese comrade that he could lodge the whole of the Chinese if they like to leave the ship and come to his premises. These men, returning on board, communicated this invitation to the rest of the Chinese crew, and the Chinese thereupon insisted on leaving the ship in a body, notwithstanding the direct orders of the Captain. On the Chinese attempting to desert the vessel the officers interfered and a row ensued, the result being that after a sharp struggle the Chinese were locked up in the fore-cabin. During the struggle blows were struck, and the Chinese apparently bore some marks of the affray, for on a number of them escaping through the ventilator of the fore-cabin and reaching the shore, they laid a complaint against the Captain and officers for assault, showing the wounds they had received as evidence of maltreatment. The authorities, without apparently attempting to make any further inquiries, at once proceeded on board and arrested the Captain and officers. We are informed that the Captain, who was ill with rheumatism and unable to walk without the assistance of a stick, was placed in the ordinary jail, and was compelled to divest himself of his hat, overcoat, watch and pocket-book, of which the police took possession. The cell into which he was locked was without any apparatus for being warmed, and it had broken windows, through which the rain and wind came. He remained for some thirty-six hours. Meanwhile the German Consul at Nagasaki had been communicated with, and he at once sent the German Interpreter, Dr. Speck, to make inquiries, whereupon the Captain and officers were released. We understand that Captain Warneke has instituted a claim of ¥100,000 for damages suffered by himself and officers and for the detention of his ship for two days.

## MR. ROCKEFELLER AT GOLF.

American millionaires are not taking any chances these days. A friend who has just visited Mr. John D. Rockefeller at his country house near Cleveland, Ohio, describes him as playing golf over a private course that is surrounded by a high steel fence and guarded by six-foot green-coated henchmen, who, of course are under strict orders to let no one pass on any condition. "Last month," said the friend, "I was playing a round with John, as usual, when the serving man just side of him gave a yell 'Look out!' and the next thing I knew John had dropped his brisney and was off down the hill like a whirlwind. I followed along, kind of looking around to see what was the trouble, when all at once I caught sight of a figure flying over the knoll back of us, with his hair straight back from his head and something black waving in his hands, and a six-footer, with his green coat tails flying, coming behind like a steam-engine. Well, then I started after John, and found him in the bushes by the first tee, him and I fell on the leaves. I crawled in near him, and I tell you we were both pretty badly scared. John was wondering whether the crank would throw the bomb before Peter caught him, when suddenly Peter appeared over the hill with the fellow by the bottle in his hand, and John yelled out 'Hey, there, Peter. Stop where you are and—' and he destroyed that bomb or do something, you fool! Then the Anarchist sang out, 'Mr. Rockefeller, I believe. Well, I have here—' and he held up the bottle, but before he could throw it Peter had jerked him back, and the bottle flew out of his hands and up in the air. When we took our heads out of the leaves again, we saw some red liquid splattered about on the grass. John came out cautiously, looked at the broken glass, and said, 'Thank God!' Then he went up to the Anarchist and said, 'Your bomb, sir, didn't work, it seems.' 'Bomb!' said the Anarchist; 'your servant, sir, has destroyed my magical hair oil. But allow me, Mr. Rockefeller, to—' You bet, John and I were through with golf for that day."

## SHIPPING NOTES.

## WEATHER OUTSIDE.

Moderate N.E. monsoon is reported from all directions.

## THE "PRIMA" FILE.

Re the fire on the Norwegian s.s. *Prima* last Tuesday evening, the lamping trimmer was bringing the riding-light on deck when it exploded. It must have been a poor quality of kerosene oil, but, by the way, the usual thing burned in riding-lights is kerosene oil; why this exception? Kerosene oil, though not so brilliant as kerosene, is less likely to go out when the lamp is a swinging one, and not a fixture.

## "ELENE RICKMERS" ARRIVES.

The N.D.L.s.s. *Helene Rickmers* arrived yesterday with 1,000 tons of rice consigned to Messrs. Butterfield and Swire. Here are the bare facts of her disastrous voyage.—She left Bangkok for Hongkong on the 17th December; grounded on the northern reef of the Paracel Shoal at 3.30 a.m., 25th December; got off at 2 p.m. on 2nd inst., and put into Heliow with a damaged bottom.

## NOTICE.

Owing to the Great Increase in the Furniture Business of Messrs. ACHEE & CO., we are requested by them to Resum Management of the Photographic Business hitherto carried on in their name on our behalf. From this date we will continue the Photographic business at the same place under the name of

## LONG, HING &amp; CO.

All outstanding credit and debit accounts of the Photographic Business will be collected and settled by us. Inspection is invited to the New Stock now on view.

## LONG, HING &amp; CO.,

PHOTO GOODS DEALERS,

17A, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL

Hongkong, 21st December, 1903.

## THE LAHMEYER ELECTRICAL CO., LD.

LONDON,

ELECTRIZITAETS ACTIEN GESELLSCHAFT FORM. W. LAHMEYER &amp; CO., FRANKFURT A/M.

FOR ESTIMATES OF ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS OF ANY DESCRIPTION Apply to—SIEMSEN &amp; CO., SOLE AGENTS FOR CHINA.

## ARNHOLD, KARBERG &amp; CO.

ELECTRICITY DEPARTMENT.

SOLE AGENTS IN CHINA FOR: THE ALLGEMEINE ELECTRICITATS GESELLSCHAFT, BERLIN. MESSRS. KOERTING BROS., HANNOVER. THE COMPANY OF WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY, BERLIN. MESSRS. MIX &amp; GENEST, BERLIN.

## PRIVATE ELECTRIC LIGHTING PLANTS A SPECIALITY

Fully detailed Estimates drawn up free of charge upon application to the above. Hongkong 3rd December, 1903.

LOSS OF THE "MANANESSE" AT JAPAN. The British s.s. *Mananesse* whose troubles have filled the newspapers on both sides of the Pacific Ocean for the past four years has at last gone to her end in the fierce gale that swept over Northern Japan. She arrived a month ago after an exciting trip from the north during which she ran short of coal, and had to burn up all her woodwork to enable her to reach port. After being thoroughly repaired at Hakodate, a cargo of sulphur was loaded for San Francisco. While attempting to enter Mororan harbour for coal the vessel took ground off Yawmu Ski; and she has since become a total wreck. The *Mananesse* was a steamer over 1600 gross tons and formerly belonged to the Red Cross line of Liverpool. She has changed hands several times, and finally was bought by the British Columbia Steamship Company, who spent over \$30,000 gold repairing her. She then left on her last voyage. The cargo was insured in the Tokyo Kaigo Insurance Company for Yen 35,000, while the vessel herself had only \$25,000 gold insurance.

WELSH COAL FOR PORT ARTHUR. Nearly five thousand tons of coal were shipped at Cardiff for Port Arthur during November. The December shipments are expected to be larger.

THE MAGNETIC NORTH POLE. We all know that the much-sought-after North Pole is not the magnetic pole; in other words an unbalanced magnetised needle will not point due north, but will be attracted to another point in northern latitudes called the magnetic North Pole, the exact locality of which is not known. If a needle were placed exactly over the magnetic North Pole it would point downwards; or, so to speak, magnetic north. Great interest is expressed as to where this magnetic pole may be, several expeditions having been sent to look for it.

FAVOURABLE VOLUNTEER VESSELS FOR EUROPE. The question of a Russian Government subsidy to the new Russian Volunteer Fleet competitive line between Mediterranean ports and New York is one of some moment to British and other steamship companies engaged in the emigrant traffic between Europe and America.

The Russian transports destined to act as pioneers in the work of introducing the Russian commercial flag in foreign waters have been chosen in the main, first, because they are in receipt of a Government subsidy, secondly, because they are the only vessels at present under the Russian commercial flag of sufficiently high-class construction, accommodation, and speed to compete with prospect of success against existing foreign lines, and, thirdly, because the practical abolition of the emigrant traffic between European Russia and the Far East in consequence of the opening of the Siberian Railway has left on the hands of the Volunteer Fleet Committee several fast cruisers which, while still comparatively new, cost them over 7,000,000 roubles, or close on £750,000. The voyages recently made by these 20-knot vessels between Odessa and Vladivostok have been made at so heavy a loss that it has taken practically all the profits of the whole of the rest of the Volunteer Fleet's vessels to cover their deficits. On the average, for 1,800 cover their deficits. On the average, for 1,800 passengers and consequently a diminished cargo of emigrants, passengers and emigrants alike have almost entirely quit the Odessa Far East sea route. The average loss in passenger fares per year thus caused to each of these fast cruisers is, roughly, 400,000 roubles. The emigrant traffic between the Mediterranean and New York is exceptionally heavy and progressive. Promoters of the new scheme are perfectly aware that severe competition must be faced from British and other foreign shipping companies. The prospect of competition, however, does not appear to be alarming, as the Volunteer Fleet Association, by the terms of their new contract with the Russian Government, receive an annual subsidy of 600,000 roubles, as before. With the withdrawal of the fast cruisers from the Odessa-Vladivostok line, a paying one, has been transformed into a paying one, the bulk of the slower vessels being retained for the purposes of competition outside of the Russian Empire, and other lines. If necessary, the whole of the annual subsidy can be utilised to enable the new Russian line to hold its own against competitors already in the field, though it is extremely unlikely that the venture will impose a severe strain on the committee's resources. Thus what English and other lines trading to the Mediterranean to New York will have to face with the establishment of a Russian Volunteer Fleet line is the competition of comparatively new vessels of a very high class assisted with whatever portion of an annual 60,000-guinea subsidy may be found to be necessary.

LATEST STEAMER MOVEMENT. The E. & A. steamer *Empire*, from Sydney, &c., left Thursday Island on the 11th inst. for Manila and this port.



THE FAVOURITE BRANDY OF THE

FRENCH IS

MARTELL'S

\* \$26.00 PER DOZEN.

\*\*\* \$31.00 PER DOZEN.

V. S. O. P. \$51.00 PER DOZEN.

V. V. S. O. P. \$93.00 PER DOZEN.

Even their cheapest quality is recommended

by the Medical Faculty for Invalids and

delicate people.

SOLE AGENTS.

H. PRICE &amp; CO.

12, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL. [41]

**ROYAL**  
BAKING POWDER  
Absolutely Pure

To be used always for raising cake, scones, hot tea-biscuits, rolls, muffins, crusts, etc.

Indispensable where the finest food is required.

The medical officer of health and public analyst for the city of London, England, reports the ROYAL Baking Powder chemically pure and giving the maximum possible yield of leavening gas.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER retains its strength and freshness under the variable temperature and moisture of every climate.

Manufactured by  
**Royal Baking Powder Co.**  
NEW YORK, U.S.A.

DR. NEWELL WILSON,

DENTIST.

Latest American methods.

Reasonable prices.

No charge for examinations.

Office hours 9 A.M. to 1 P.M. and 2 to 5 P.M.

31, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL

(First Floor Watkins Building).

Hongkong, 6th November, 1903







# THE "APOLLO" PIANO- PLAYER

MAKES MUSICIANS  
OF US ALL

Price \$450 up.

FOR  
Hire or Credit

10,000 PIECES TO SELECT FROM.

THE LATEST  
"VICTOR"  
TALKING  
MACHINES

WITH TAPERING ARM.  
SUPERSEDING OLD STYLE.

THE  
ROBINSON  
PIANO  
CO. LTD.

Hongkong, 11th January, 1904. [3335]

NOTICE.  
THE date of Closing of Entries for the  
FORTHCOMING RACES has been  
POSTPONED from the 9th JANUARY to  
SATURDAY, 16th.

By Order,  
T. F. HOUGH,  
Clerk of the Course.  
Hongkong, 28th December, 1903. [3580]

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

THE Business of AH MEN and HING  
CHEONG & CO., Tailors, will be  
CARRIED ON from the 17th inst. at No. 8  
QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, opposite to  
the Connaught House Hotel.  
Hongkong, 5th January, 1904. [128]

A. LING & CO.,  
FURNITURE STORE.  
PLATED, GLASS AND CROCKERY  
WARE, &c., &c., and all FINE  
ACQUED WARE.  
68, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.  
Hongkong, 21st September, 1903.

HONGKONG  
BUSINESS DIRECTORY.

BOOKBINDING.

"DAILY PRESS" OFFICE.  
The only office in China having European  
taught workmen. Equal to Home Work  
FURNITURE WAREHOUSEMEN

ACHEE & CO., Established 1859.  
Furniture Dealers, Silver-plated, China  
Glass and Iron Wares.  
17A, Queen's Road Central.

JEWELLERS

MAISON LEVY HERMANOS  
Diamond Merchants and Watchmakers, 49  
Watson's Building, Queen's Road. Also  
at Shanghai, Manila, Paris and Joio

PHOTOGRAPHER

M. MUMEY, JAPANESE ARTIST.  
Bromide and Crayon Enlargements and  
also colouring Photos and Relief Photos.  
Views of China and Manila. Work  
done for Amateurs; No. 8A, Queen's  
Road Central.

PRINTING

"DAILY PRESS" OFFICE  
Proofs read by Englishman.

STOREKEEPERS

F. BLACKHEAD & CO.,  
Navy Contractors, Sailmakers, Provision  
and Coal Merchants, Sole Agents for  
Hartman's Ration's Genuine Com-  
position Red Head Brand.

BISMARCK & CO.,  
Navy Contractors, Ship Chandlers,  
Provision and Coal Merchants, Sail-  
makers, &c. Fresh Water supplied to  
Vessels in the Harbour

AWONG SANG & CO.,  
Shipchandlers, Sailmakers, Provisioners,  
Coal Merchants, Hardware, Engineers,  
Tools, Brass and Iron Merchants,  
144, Des Voeux Road.

## PUBLIC COMPANIES

CHINA PROVIDENT LOAN AND  
MORTGAGE COMPANY, LD.

THE SEVENTH ORDINARY ANNUAL  
MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS in the  
Company will be held at the OFFICES of  
the Company, 14, Des Voeux Road, on  
SATURDAY, the 16th JANUARY, 1904, at  
11 o'clock A.M., for the purpose of receiving a  
Statement of Accounts and the Report of the  
General Managers for the year ending 31st  
December, 1903, declaring a dividend and  
electing a Consulting Committee and Auditors.  
The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will  
be CLOSED from WEDNESDAY, the 13th  
JANUARY, 1904, to SATURDAY, the 16th  
JANUARY, 1904, both days inclusive.

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.,  
General Managers.  
Hongkong, 5th January, 1904. [329]

THE KOWLOON LAND AND BUILD-  
ING COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the  
FIFTEENTH ORDINARY MEETING  
OF SHAREHOLDERS in this Company  
will be held at the COMPANY'S OFFICES,  
Victoria Buildings, on WEDNESDAY, the  
26th JANUARY, 1904, at 12 o'clock NOON,  
for the purpose of receiving the Report of the  
Directors together with Statement of Accounts  
for the year ending 31st December, 1903.  
The REGISTER OF SHARES of the  
Company will be CLOSED from FRIDAY,  
the 15th JANUARY, to WEDNESDAY, the  
26th JANUARY (both days inclusive), during  
which period no transfer of Shares can be  
Registered.

By Order of the Board of Directors,  
A. SHELTON HOOPER,  
Secretary to the  
Hongkong Land Investment and Agency  
Company, Limited.

General Agents for the  
KOWLOON LAND AND BUILDING  
COMPANY, LIMITED.  
Hongkong, 5th January, 1904. [145]

THE WEST POINT BUILDING  
COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the  
SIXTEENTH ORDINARY MEET-  
ING OF SHAREHOLDERS in this Company  
will be held at the COMPANY'S OFFICES,  
Victoria Buildings, on WEDNESDAY, the  
27th JANUARY, 1904, at 11.30 o'clock A.M.  
for the purpose of receiving the Report of the  
Directors together with Statement of Accounts  
for the year ending 31st December, 1903.  
The REGISTER OF SHARES of the  
Company will be CLOSED from SATURDAY,  
the 16th JANUARY, to WEDNESDAY, the  
27th JANUARY (both days inclusive), during  
which period no transfer of Shares can be  
registered.

By Order of the Board of Directors,  
A. SHELTON HOOPER,  
Secretary to the  
Hongkong Land Investment and Agency  
Co., Ltd.

General Agents for  
THE WEST POINT BUILDING  
CO., LD.  
Hongkong, 5th January, 1904. [192]

THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT  
AND AGENCY CO., LD.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the  
THIRTEENTH ORDINARY MEET-  
ING OF SHAREHOLDERS in this Company  
will be held at the COMPANY'S OFFICES,  
Victoria Buildings, on WEDNESDAY, the  
27th JANUARY, 1904, at 12 o'clock NOON,  
for the purpose of receiving the Report of the  
Directors together with Statement of Accounts  
for the year ending 31st December, 1903.  
The REGISTER OF SHARES of the  
Company will be CLOSED from SATURDAY,  
the 16th JANUARY, to WEDNESDAY, the  
27th JANUARY (both days inclusive), during  
which period no transfer of Shares can be  
registered.

By Order of the Board of Directors,  
A. SHELTON HOOPER,  
Secretary to the  
Hongkong Land Investment and Agency  
Co., Ltd.

General Agents for  
THE WEST POINT BUILDING  
CO., LD.  
Hongkong, 5th January, 1904. [193]

THE NATIONAL BANK OF CHINA,  
LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the  
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CO., LD.  
Hongkong, 5th January, 1904. [193]

## COREAN NOTES.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

Hokpo, 29th December.

THE HAGIWARA AFFAIR.

The real truth of the Hagihara incident at  
Yong-ampho is said to be as follows:—Mr.  
Hagihara, Secretary of the Japanese Legation  
in Seoul, made a trip to the north of Corea by  
boat and entered the harbour of Yong-ampho  
but the Russians who had occupied the place,  
refused to allow him to land. As soon as this  
fact was transmitted to Seoul, the Japanese  
Minister enquired of the Russian Minister  
what the cause of this might be. The reply  
was that as the whole matter of Russian opera-  
tions along the Yalu was in the hands of  
Admiral Alexieff the Russian Legation in Seoul  
knew nothing about the matter. The Japanese  
therefore made representations in the proper  
quarters, and the Russian authorities said that  
it had been all a mistake. Thereupon Mr.  
Hagihara again went to Yong-ampho and was  
received very courteously and shown all over  
the place. According to his report in regard  
to the supposed fortifications, these turned out  
to be nothing but stables! At least they were  
not fortifications. It is quite evident that  
there is more behind this than the public is  
supposed to know, but it makes little difference  
what may be behind it so long as peace is  
preserved in the Far East.

"LENDING NAMES."

There is a curious custom in Corea called "Ch'a-  
huan," "Lending Name." It consists in a man  
being made an official just for a day or two  
in order to be able to lack that particular title  
to his name for ever after. Of course it costs  
something, but there are plenty of men who  
have more money than titles, and who are willing  
to make an exchange. There is, however, a  
Government department which does not counten-  
ance this sort of thing.

EXCHANGE AND COPPER.

The drop in exchange brought the intrinsic  
value of Korean copper cents above their  
exchange value, and immediately the Chinese be-  
gan to buy them in right and left and send them  
to China. The result was that the copper cents  
went to a premium of 20 cents as compared with  
the silver coins. It is said that the Customs  
interfered with the export of copper and a  
number of Chinese failed to connect.

CEREMONY INTERRUPTED WITH.

The young prince Yung-chin was for a few  
days afflicted with an eruption that frequently  
succeeds small-pox. This interfered with the  
celebration of Independence Day, and his  
Majesty gave no audience (to the foreign  
representatives and employees).

OFFICIAL MATTERS.

Yi Chi-yong was appointed Korean Minister  
to Japan about the end of November.

Mr. H. N. Allen, United States Minister at  
Seoul, and Mrs. Allen have arrived from  
America.

WILL THERE BE WAR?

The following views on the Russo-Japanese  
question I venture to submit to your readers.  
It is erroneous to argue that Russia could not  
give way before an Asiatic Power. She did so in  
the early eighties, when she yielded up Ili and  
Kuld Ja to China, after both countries had been  
hovering for months on the verge of war, and  
she will do so again, as Japan is quite resolute  
in the stand she has taken, and is supported, to  
some extent, by both Great Britain and the  
United States. To her Corea, which is involved  
in the Manchurian issues, is a matter of life or  
death. Japanese interests in Manchuria are  
far from being merely commercial, such as are  
those of Great Britain and America. They are  
a matter of vital importance to her, and hence  
she will remain firm, and not, like the United  
States, ask for any more opening of ports. If  
Russia does not give way it is firmly believed  
that Japan will fight, and will invade Manchu-  
ria by way of Corea. In a contest with Japan  
Russia will have to depend not on her whole  
strength, but on that portion of it which she  
can bring to bear in the Far East. The sea  
would be closed to her, and the lesson of the  
South African war must have taught her the  
inefficiency of a long single line of railway as a  
means of transportation of troops. In the event  
of war Japan would in all probability pour troops  
into the Liaoning peninsula, put forth all her  
efforts for its reduction and the capture of Port  
Arthur, and then fortify herself beyond its  
narrow neck, and thus having command of the  
sea, hold it securely as a base of operations, whence  
she could advance her troops as deemed neces-  
sary. It is, therefore, a mistake to say that  
Japan could do little against Russia, the colos-  
sal, for Japan is also colossal in Manchuria.  
Whatever Russian diplomacy may do to keep  
all she can, she will eventually give way to the  
pressure brought to bear by Japan, and we  
shall not see a war between these Powers.

It will be a long time before Filipinos will  
really understand "their brothers from the  
U.S." For instance, they cannot quite agree with  
Americans at Manila—Army officers too—stop-  
ping in the street and leaning up to their  
chins for a light, saying "A light, kombre."  
Kombre (man) seems to them a very uncourt-  
eous way of addressing a stranger.

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## TRAGIC TALE OF THE SEA.

CAPTAIN'S JUSTIFIABLE HOMICIDE.

Alfred Boulter, master of the British schooner  
Keldar Buz, when tried at Singapore for the  
alleged murder of a serang, or coloured boat-  
swain, in Lombok Straits, had a most remark-  
able tale to unfold.

Frequently, while recounting incidents of the  
voyage, he broke down and sobbed convulsively.  
He said that he took charge of the ship at  
Sourabaya. The mate refused to join, so he  
determined to go alone with what proved to be  
an incompetent, mutinous native crew. A few  
days out from Sourabaya, two men working  
at the pump brought up a human hand,  
presumably that of a Malay, who was said  
to have disappeared on the voyage from  
Singapore to Sourabaya. Impertinence on the  
part of the crew, became rampant, and an evident  
conspiracy existed to prevent the ship reaching  
Australia. When about a quarter of a mile from  
Bahia Island one Osman got on to the railing  
and called upon the others to swim with him to  
the shore. The discretion was prevented by  
accused only by threatening to shoot the first  
man who jumped from the ship. A few nights  
later he (the captain) discovered the serang  
conversing with a native prow right alongside  
the schooner. In answer to the prow the serang  
told them that there was only one white man on  
the schooner, and that if he persisted in going  
to Australia, he (the serang) would cut his  
head off. The force of the moonlight which had  
occurred increased. Piece by piece the rigging  
went by the board, the crew refusing to replace  
it. Shortly before 1 o'clock on the morning  
of August 29, he found the schooner bearing  
down, under a strong wind, on a reef, and he  
gave the order to put the vessel about. On  
the first attempt she missed stays, owing to  
one Jose altering the steering-gear and the  
serang deliberately lurching with the fore-  
sails. Witness remonstrated with Jose, who  
flushed a " " in his face. He struck Jose on  
the head with his revolver and having set the  
wheel, went forward to the serang. The latter  
he found still impeding him. He twice ordered  
the man to let go the jib-sheets. The serang  
replied, "This ship no go to Australia; too  
much leaking," and rushed at him saying, "I  
kill Tom Walsh (referring to a Sharks Bay  
tragedy) and I kill you." Accused fired at the  
man's thigh, but, owing to a lurch in the ship,  
the bullet entered the abdomen. Thereupon  
he was momentarily in fear of his life  
at the hands of the crew, and for nine days he  
had not a minute's sleep. Fortunately, they  
were unaware that he had only two shots in  
his revolver. On one occasion Jose and Patricio  
attempted to seize him at the wheel, and on  
another he discovered Patricio approaching him  
in his cabin, with no good intent. Later it was  
reported that Patricio had committed suicide.  
He learned that the man was hiding in the hold,  
but believing that it was a conspiracy to get  
him below and overpower him, he lined the men  
up on the deck at the point of the revolver, and  
then went below and put Patricio in irons. He  
still bore the mark of a stab in the leg, received  
from Patricio. He arrived in Broome shat-  
tered in health, with his ship in a dismantled  
and dilapidated condition.

The jury returned a verdict of justifiable  
homicide, and the accused was accordingly dis-  
charged.—Singapore Free Press.

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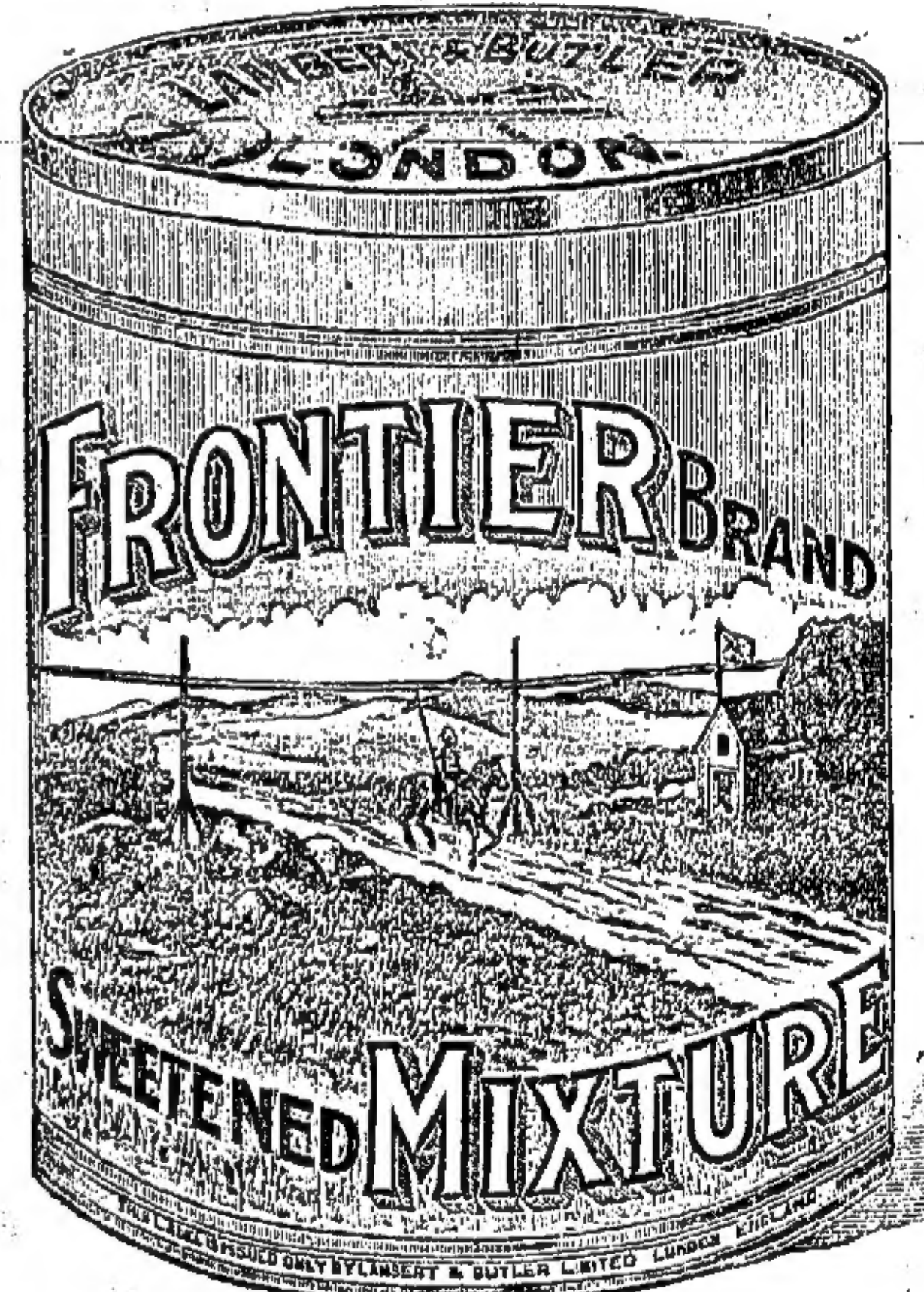
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